(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

(d) The total investment in new/expansion projects estimated is Rs. 18383.25 crore for CIL projects and Rs. 3126.30 crores for SCCL projects. The total likely investment for increase in capacity under ECPP of CIL is Rs. 3783 crores.

Normally a project starts giving production in 4-5 years time. During the terminal year of the Tenth Plan (2006-07) the production from 32 coal projects of CIL is expected to be 71.74 million tonnes and from 9 projects of SCCL is 5.285 Million tonnes. The other projects of Tenth Plan will come into production after 2006-07. The projects under ECPP will contribute 19 million tonnes of coal production in the year 2006-07.

Amendment of Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act

†1036. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act with a view to attract investment through private participation in the field of coal mining is under consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the major requirement of power in the country is being met through the coal sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the further steps being taken to meet the requirement of Coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) The Central Government had sought to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation Act, 1973 with a view to allow Indian companies both in the public and private sectors to mine coal in the country without the existing restriction of captive mining and to undertake exploration of coal in the country, in order to bridge the gap between demand and supply of coal. Accordingly, a Bill, namely, the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in April, 2000.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) The figures for demand and actual supply to power (Utilities) during last three years are given as under:

	(Figures in Mt.)		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Demand as per Plan Document	256.00	279.52	303.56
Actual supply (indigenous)	288.12	285.18	299.76

The Government has taken the following steps to meet the requirement of Coal.

(i) 97 mining projects have been undertaken for implementation by CIL during Tenth Plan.

(ii) improvement in equipment utilization;

(iii) timely implementation of projects;

(iv) all new mines are being planned with mechanization;

(v) increasing productivity in both underground and opencast mines;

(vi) 123 coal blocks have been allotted to various private/public sector companies;

(vii) emergency coal production has been planned for increasing production in existing mines/projects.

SPV for buying coal blocks abroad

1037. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. (CIL) proposes to set up two Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) to buy coal blocks abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this unit also proposes to increase the coal production to 520 ml. tonnes per year during the Eleveth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?